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EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
Charleston, Illinois

news

July 10, 1986

L-A-M

HARRY READ, Director of Information and Publications (217) 581-2820

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHARLESTON, IL--Joan Embery, international goodwill ambassador and official hostess for the San Diego Zoo and Wild Animal Park, will speak at Eastern Illinois University on Tuesday, July 22 at 7:30 p.m. in the Booth Library Lecture Room.

Ms. Embery, recipient of the Board of Governors' Bachelor of Arts degree this spring from Eastern, will discuss "Room in the Ark?--The Future Survival of Wildlife."

In addition to the public lecture, Ms. Embery will direct a workshop July 21-24 on wildlife survival. The workshop and lecture are part of the Distinguished Visiting Faculty program of Summer School '86.

Persons interested in attending the workshop may contact Dr. Charles Switzer, Summer School Director, for information on registration. The telephone number is (217) 581-2023.

In her position with the San Diego Zoo, Ms. Embery has appeared on the Tonight Show with Johnny Carson more than 45 times, nine times with Merv Griffin, 10 times with Mike Douglas, and 80 times on PM Magazine.

Ms. Embery recently finished an assignment as hostess of 130 half-hour episodes for "The Animal Express," a nationally-syndicated television series. The program was shot on location around the world.

In the past 17 years she has spoken to more than 700 live audiences and to more than 200 schools, churches, and civic organizations.

She is the author of three education-oriented books, "My Wild World," "Amazing Animal Facts," and "On Horses."

Ms. Embery has trained a wide variety of animals, including elephants, horses, exotic cats, birds, and canines for shows at the San Diego Zoo and Wild Animal Park.

She and her husband, Duane Pillsbury, live in Lakeside, Calif., on their 20-acre ranch. She raises quarter horses, miniature horses, Lippizans, Clydesdales, and an

assortment of exotic animals which travel with her on her appearances.

Joan Embery began her professional career in 1968 as an attendant at the San Diego Zoo's Children's Zoo.

Promoted in 1970 to international ambassador, she began speaking to groups and organizations about survival of endangered species, the value of wildlife habitat preservation, and the purpose of zoos.